Woodnewton News

June 2026



What's On?



VILLAGE FILM NIGHT

There will be a screening of **'Song Sung Blue'** (Rated 12) at the village hall on Saturday 13th June at 7.30pm.



The film is a true story based on two down on their luck musicians who prove it's never too late to find love and follow your dreams. They form a Neil Diamond tribute band called Lightning and Thunder, rising from humble dive bar gigs to unexpected hometown stardom. The film explores their personal struggles, passion and musical journey.

Doors open 7.00pm, admission £5.

Please bring your own drinks and nibbles.

Chairman's Notes from Woodnewton Parish Council Meeting held on 14th April.

Apologies received from Cllr Guttridge,

Previous meeting minutes from 2nd March were agreed.

There were no declarations of interest and no members of the public attended.

Churchyard and Cemetery

First cut of the year satisfactorily carried out by new contractor.

Road Safety and Playground

Playground checks found no new issues and final repairs identified in previous inspections have completed; everything is now up to date. A replacement bearing kit for one of the exercise walkers was approved for purchase, this will be held in reserve in the event that the repair to free off the existing bearing do not stand the test of time/weather.

VAS Equipment working well, Q1 traffic data downloaded by Cllr Kisiel, this will be presented at next meeting.

Financial and Operational Issues

The council reviewed and adopted the Asset Register and Updated Risk Assessment

WPC Insurance quotes will be gathered by Clerk for review at next meeting.

The bank balance was as forecast and several regular payments were approved, including salary, gardening, membership, refuse sacks, and other running costs.

The quarterly financial review for January to March 2026 was approved and will form the final figures for the 2025/26 audit.

Village Maintenance, Planning and Community

No planning applications received

The village hall noticeboard grant application was refused (explanation has been requested), however other funding options will be explored.

It was agreed to send a spring reminder to Allotment plot holders concerning responsibilities under their tenancy agreement and to offer the option of them agreeing a representative to liaise with Cllr Brookes/WPC on allotment matters. It was also noted that there is no current waiting list for allotments with a number potentially becoming available during 2026. Cllr Brookes confirmed that the faulty water tap has been replaced. A replacement shed request was also agreed.

The bonfire has been lit several times to burn any remaining material (thanks to Cllr Swallow) and the remaining large ash pile now needs to be dealt with, various options are under review however a skip may be required to take this material away.

After the very impressive daffodil display this spring Cllr Swallow asked if WPC would be willing to purchase more bulbs to plant in empty areas, he also wanted to replace the flag adjacent to the infant play area which is now looking very worn. Both matters will be considered at the next meeting.

A request for metal detecting activities on WPC land was considered and rejected since it was felt there were no areas where this would be appropriate.

Footpaths

A number of complaints have been received about horse riders using the footpath (not a designated bridleway) out of the village towards Southwick woods. This is outside the village boundary so under Highways authority and the Clerk will refer the matter to them. In addition a footpath sign to be requested North from the village towards Shortwood Equestrian.

WPC CAN (Climate and Nature) champion Cllr Pythian attended a meeting with other local CAN representatives to learn about/coordinate on potential future projects, however it is clear the scale and scope of any undertakings will be dependant on the support that is forthcoming from village residents for new initiatives .

Next meeting is the Annual Parish Council Meeting where the council will elect its Chair and Vice Chair, allocate responsibilities among Council members and manage key administrative requirement for the forthcoming 12 months, this will be held on Monday 18 May 2026 at 8pm in the village hall.

Paul Blackmore.

St Mary's Church News

Services at St. Mary's Church Woodnewton June 2026

31st May – 10.00 a.m. BENEFICE SERVICE AT WOODNEWTON

7th June – 8.15 a.m. Holy Communion at NASSINGTON

10.00 a.m. BENEFICE SERVICE AT MANOR FARM, THORNHAUGH

14th June – No service at Woodnewton. Services at Nassington at 9.30 am and Yarwell at 11 am.

21st June – 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion (Modern Language)

28th June – 8.30 a.m. Holy Communion BCP (Traditional Language)

Every Sunday 5.00 p.m. A Service at Home by ZOOM (phone or online). Log-in details from Rev. Jane (01780 782271 – jdtailby@aol.com)

Last month I mentioned our group service for the last Sunday in May,31st, and that is being held here at Woodnewton at 10.00 a.m. All are welcome to share this service together as we think about the ways that God connects us with each other, and with him. The following Sunday there is an additional group service over at Thornhaugh at 10.00 a.m. This is the Rogationtide service I wrote about last time, and will be held at Manor Farm in the village. This will be an informal, non-Communion service celebrating our connections with the land and countryside and giving thanks for the many ways in which God provides for us.

The poet John Donne famously wrote "No man is an island" and these two services when we get together as a group of churches remind us that we are connected in so many ways, and that we need each other to thrive. Perhaps as we move into the summer and we are able to be out and about more, we might think about our connections with those we love, those we depend upon and with the world around us. John Donne who wrote those famous words was a Christian and wrote from a perspective of faith, reminding us that is it God's intention that we should be connected with each other, with his creation , and with him.

With every blessing,

Revd. Jane

Every 3rd Sunday, 3.00 – 4.00 p.m.

CRAFT CHURCH in NASSINGTON CHURCH

A time for everyone to join together from all the villages in our Watersmete Group, including WOODNEWTON. Come and join us for crafts and activities with prayers and songs.

ALL WELCOME!

Our next Craft Church is 17th May

Nene Valley Railway launches new Resilience Fund

The Nene Valley Railway has launched a new "Resilience Fund" appeal to help secure the future of the much-loved heritage

Although the railway welcomes thousands of visitors each year and relies heavily on volunteers, rising operating costs are putting increasing pressure on finances. Like most heritage railways, the NVR receives no government funding and depends on ticket sales, donations and volunteer support to keep

The railway says many visitors are unaware of the scale of the behind-the-scenes costs involved in operating safely. Coal for steam locomotives now costs hundreds of pounds per return journey, major locomotive overhauls can run into hundreds of thousands of pounds, and even refurbishing a single passenger carriage can cost more than £20,000. Track renewals are also a major

The new fund follows the railway's successful "Back on Track" appeal launched after the pandemic, which helped stabilise finances during a difficult

NVR Chairman Michael Purcell said the new appeal is about ensuring the railway remains part of the local community for generations to

Supporters can help through donations, memberships, sponsorship, volunteering, or simply by visiting the railway and encouraging others to do the same.

More information can be found at the Nene Valley Railway website. https://nvr.org.uk/

Woodnewton History Group

April Talk

April's talk at the Village Hall was well attended, and those present greatly enjoyed David Bond's fascinating presentation on the routes and turnpikes around the local area. The History Group is also very grateful to everyone who provides cakes for these talks, helping to make them such enjoyable afternoons.

Our next talk is on Sunday, 6th September, Rutland Roman Villa Mosaic discovered in a farmer's field.

Outing

Members of the Yarwell Mill History Group joined us, together with friends, for a visit to the Harrier Heritage Museum at Wittering at the beginning of May. After completing the security procedures and taking our seats in the museum, the group of 38 enjoyed a fascinating talk about the history and life of the Harriers at Wittering. We then visited different rooms of the museum and then onto the hangar, where four full-size Harriers were on display, and had the opportunity to learn more about their service and connection with Wittering.



Come & Chat



The 'Come and Chat' mornings are usually held on the last Thursday of every month from 10.30 to midday, the next date for your diary is the 25 June 2026.

Tea/Coffee and biscuits are available for a donation of £1 and everyone is welcome to pop in.

It's a good opportunity to meet with friends or to make new friends. If you are fairly new to the village do come along, you will be given a warm welcome.

Line Dancing Class



Woodnewton Village Hall every Monday 7-8pm

No experience necessary. The aim is to have fun and improve fitness along the way. No need to book. £4 a session. Ring/text/email Tasha for further details.

07789 230671 or nteall@btinternet.com

WOODNEWTON
ART GROUP

The Woodnewton Art Group led by John Russell now has a Website at https://woodnewton25.wixsite.com/mysite**. You can also get to it via the homepage of the Woodnewton Hub:** http://woodnewtonhub.co.uk/

WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Woodnewton Parish Council are looking for volunteers who are prepared to assist with general repairs, renovation and maintenance tasks around the village. We'd like to create a "first responder" list of individuals who are prepared to help out occasionally, so if you are available, enthusiastic and ideally have some relevant skills or experience, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact Amy Miller at clerk@woodnewtonparish.gov.uk.

Useful Numbers and Information

Parish Council Clerk clerk@woodnewtonparish.gov.uk

Village Hall Booking Anne Hills 07399 359262
villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Watch woodnewtonnw@gmail.com

Police 101 Ext 345306 for PCSO Artur Pereira
artur.pereira@northants.pnn.police.uk

Doctors Surgeries Oundle 01832 273408
Wansford 01780 782342

Veterinary Surgeries Oundle 01832 273521
Yarwell 01780 783910

Newsletter & Website Contacts

Newsletter Team:

Grant Neville, Ann Galloway, Jane Martin, June Moore, Ivan Walker.

Advertising: Ivan Walker, Tel 01780 470438

Contributions: We are always happy to receive articles for publication. Please send articles by email whenever possible to newswoodnewton@gmail.com.

We prefer pictures in jpg format and hi resolution whenever possible.

Handwritten / non-electronic contributions can be delivered or sent to:

June Moore, 5 Lindsey Close.

Closing date for all copy **14th** of previous month.

Recent issues available here: http://woodnewtonhub.co.uk/village-newsletter/

The Newsletter is edited and published by Grant Neville, 20 Orchard Lane, Woodnewton.

Any views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Parish Council unless otherwise stated.

Website : http://woodnewtonhub.co.uk

Submissions for material to be hosted on the Woodnewton Hub website should be emailed to newswoodnewton@gmail.com.

Woodnewton Village Hall

Hall bookings may be made with Anne Hills on 07399 359262 or villagehallwoodnewton@gmail.com.

Gigaclear
Ultrafast Fibre Broadband

https://www.facebook.com/WoodnewtonVillageHall/.

Georgina's
Curtains & Keepsakes

Bespoke curtains, Roman blinds and soft furnishings to complement your home.
For a free consultation and quote call 07957 686595

www.georginascurtainsandkeepsakes.com





BESPOKE FORESTRY

WOODNEWTON LUMPWOOD

PREMIUM GRADE
CHARCOAL

100% NATURAL

CONTACT ADAM BROOKES:
07966 728751

PRODUCED IN THE LAST WOOD IN WOODNEWTON & MADE FROM LOCAL SUSTAINABLE COPPICED WOODLANDS - IDEAL FOR BBQ'S & RESTAURANTS

QUALIFIED SOUTH WEST YOGA TEACHER

Hatha Yoga Classes

Mixed Ability

Woodnewton Village Hall

Wednesday 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

£10 per class or £54.00 for six week block

Sala Yoga
Yoga for all

- Increase your strength, flexibility, mobility and balance.
- Create harmony in both body and mind with breathing and meditation techniques.
- Improve your sleep and rest deeply with Yoga Nidra
- Have fun in a friendly and welcoming inclusive class

For more details: call or text Elaine
Mobile: 07867 367353
Web: www.salayogaforall.co.uk
Email: salayogauk@yahoo.com



OFTEC™ Registered Business

jc·heating SERVICES

GAS safe™ REGISTER

JC HEATING SERVICES

Oil boiler servicing and repairs, heating controls, hot water service and repairs.
Your local heating expert for over 15 years
Jo Childs, 8 Black Swan Spinney, Wansford.
Mob : 07729036942



What's On?


THURSDAY CLUB
At Warmington Village Hall
FREE TO ATTEND
A SOCIAL CLUB FOR LOCAL VILLAGES
2nd & 4th THURSDAY EVERY MONTH 2-4 PM
WITH REFRESHMENTS
BOARD GAMES
CARD GAMES
EASY CRAFTS
PUZZLES
COLOURING
... and company!
Pink House Arts CIC
Northamptonshire Community Foundation


Nassington School
Where Children Love to Learn
About us:
Strong roots, high aspirations, creating childhood memories that last a lifetime.
Come and meet our school family and learn all about The Nassington Way
"I like its welcoming and caring approach for everyone, child or adult, the feeling of respect and politeness, its creativity & energy vibe"
Choosing your child's first school is one of the biggest decisions you'll make.
At our school, your child will be known, nurtured, and never lost in the crowd. Our close-knit community means that staff notice the small things — a quiet day, a new achievement, a friendship blossoming.
Alongside a strong academic grounding, we lay the life skills that carry children forward — kindness, resilience, and confidence in who they are.
See website for details
For children starting school in September 2027
Scan me
www.nassingtonschool.org.uk or Email - officemanager@nassingtonschool.co.uk

What's On - in your Garden?

THE FASCINATING GARDEN CRAB SPIDER ON A BUSH NEAR YOU



The large Ceanothus shrub clothing the front of our house buzzes in May with the sound of bees feeding on the glorious blue flowers in the morning sunshine. But this year I noticed other visitors to the plant. Amongst the flowers are several garden crab spiders. Like all spiders they are predators, but crab spiders don't hunt or build silk snares. Instead they catch their prey by sitting stock still on the flowers, waiting for a fly or bee to come too close. Just occasionally, the spider grabs a bee, subdues it with strength and venom, and then enjoys its rather large meal. What is surprising is that garden crab spiders are pure white – no camouflage at all. I have watched them waiting on wild orchid flowers (in Dorset) and they shuffled round to the back of the flowers as I approached. No hiding on the Ceanothus though – perhaps they are enjoying the warm sunshine too much to hide!

They are a southern species and in Woodnewton are at the northern edge of their range in Britain; perhaps they have appeared here in response to climate warming.

They have very marked sexual dimorphism. The females are only one centimetre across - see the photograph of one on a bluebell flower - but are much larger than the tiny males at 3-4 millimetres, as you can see in the second photograph. They are called crab spiders because they look like crabs and can move sideways too.



Keep your eyes open and you may spot one during the summer, waiting for passing prey on a flowering plant in your garden.

David Townshend
Pridmore Close

NASSINGTON OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND 2026

Sat 27th & Sun 28th June 1-5pm

Up to 15 Open Gardens



Enjoy one of Northamptonshire's Finest Rural Villages



Proceeds to Nassington Church

Prebendal Manor Medieval Garden
Northamptonshire's Oldest Remaining Dwelling



Church open for Tea and Home Made Cakes

Admission:
Adults (16+)
£7.50 Daily
Accompanied children 16yrs and Under Free